

NEWS IN BRIEF

From the Fairfax County Department of Housing
and Community Development (HCD)

September 23, 2003



- **FAIRFAX COUNTY REDEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING AUTHORITY POSTPONES MEETING UNTIL SEPT. 25.** Due to the threat of Hurricane Isabel, the Fairfax County Redevelopment and Housing Authority (FCRHA) meeting that was scheduled for Thursday, Sept. 18 has been postponed to Thursday, Sept. 25. The meeting begins at 7 p.m. at One University Plaza, 4500 University Drive, in Fairfax, Virginia. For more information, call 703-246-5102.
- **FCRHA RECEIVES PERFECT SCORE FROM HUD.** The FCRHA received a perfect score of 100 percent on the 2002 Section Eight Management Assessment Program (SEMAP) certification from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for its Housing Choice Voucher (formerly Section 8) program. This score designates the FCRHA as a High Performer, a distinction the FCRHA has enjoyed before in both the SEMAP and Public Housing Assessment System (PHAS) Management Operations certifications. However, this is the first time the FCRHA has scored a perfect 100 percent on the SEMAP evaluation. SEMAP is used by HUD to measure housing agency performance in key areas of the Section 8 tenant-based programs. SEMAP assesses housing agency performance on 14 key indicators that include selection procedures, policies and practices for rent reasonableness determination, and adherence to fair market rent and payment standards limits. Verification of the responses in the SEMAP certification was conducted by an independent auditor and by HUD. This was based on information extracted from the Multi-Family Tenant Characteristic System (MTCs), HUD's automated information tracking system, and through use of on-site reviews. As in the Public Housing Assessment System, housing authorities receive a rating of high performer, standard performer, or troubled performer. In the past, the FCRHA has consistently earned high performer status.
- **FCRHA'S LITTLE RIVER GLEN SENIOR LIVING PROPERTY SCORES 99 OUT OF 100 PERCENT ON HUD'S REAC INSPECTION.** The FCRHA recently scored 99 out of 100 percent for physical inspection on HUD's Real Estate Assessment Center (REAC) inspection for its Little River Glen senior living property. REAC is a management assessment system used by HUD to guarantee that multi-family, HUD financed properties meet HUD quality standards. These standards include items such as physical and life safety issues involving functioning fire extinguishers, emergency lights and doors; clean and sanitary areas; and verifying that the properties meet all building codes. All common spaces and a random selection of units were inspected. REAC conducts annual physical property inspections of nearly 33,000 properties each year.
- **GRAND OPENING OF MURRAYGATE VILLAGE COMPUTER LEARNING CENTER.** The FCRHA joined the Fairfax County Office of Partnerships to celebrate the grand opening of the Murraygate Village Computer Learning Center on Thursday, September 4. The event took place at the Murraygate Village Computer Learning Center, 7800 Belford Drive in Alexandria. The Murraygate Village Computer Learning Center is one of 13 Computer Learning Centers Partnerships (CLCP) centers located throughout the County that is operated by the Office of Partnerships. The centers serve as a public-private collaboration between Fairfax County Government, corporations, colleges and universities, private citizens, and housing entities to provide high-tech resources through state-of-the-art computer centers in or near low-income housing. Participants of the program vary in age and receive training in areas such computer basics, desktop publishing, web page design, video production, and reading literacy. The program has a TECH Club that targets young people, ages 12 to 18, and teaches them how to build computers.

Calendar Notes

- On **Wednesday, September 24 at 7:30 p.m.**, the Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board will conduct a regular meeting in conference rooms 9 and 10 of the Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax.
- On **Thursday, September 25 at 7:00 p.m.**, the Fairfax County Redevelopment and Housing Authority (FCRHA) will hold a meeting in the FCRHA Board Room, One University Plaza, 4500 University Drive, Fairfax, VA 22030.
- On **Tuesday, October 7 at 7:30 p.m.**, the Central Springfield Area Revitalization Council (C-SPARC) will hold its monthly meeting at the Springfield Tower building (14th floor), 6320 Augusta Drive, Springfield.